

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following:

The present application is a 371 of PCT/01224 filed June 14, 2004, which claims priority of German application 103 29 952.1 filed July 3, 2003.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 18 with the following:

The modified drawing in Figure 6 again illustrates the thickness (22) of the spacers (15) and now further illustrates a spacer separation (23), by which the spatial dimensioning of the space segments (18) is determined. Between the spacers (15), the space segments (18) have cross-sectional areas ~~(24)~~ that increase from the hard layer (14) towards the underside (17) of the cage bar.